

**UTAH STATE FIRE PREVENTION BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING
September 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes
PENDING APPROVAL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

David Olsen, Board Chair
Michael Phillips, Vice Chair
Chris Dawson
Joseph Decker
Craig Humphreys
Chris Kimball

Jared Larson
Derek Maxfield
Brett Ostler
Frank Park
Patrick Tomasino

STAFF PRESENT

Renee Spooner, Assistant Attorney General
Jana DeMille, Board Secretary
James Barnett
Keith Claybaker
Shane Cook
Patrick Cullen
Cory Feese

Chris Hendrickson
Todd Hohbein
Shane Maughan
Andrew McCormick
Jon Ritchie
Kelly Snow
Sheri Stevens

STAFF EXCUSED

Coy Porter, State Fire Marshal

Ted Black, Chief Deputy

OTHERS

Members of the public and the fire service were in attendance at this meeting. The attendance log is kept with the full record of the meeting.

Item #1, Board meeting called to order by Board Chair David Olsen. The meeting started at 8:30 A.M., over Google Meet. Board Member Roll Call – all Board Members present.

Item #2, Approval of the July 13, 2021 board meeting minutes. Motion made by Craig Humphreys to approve the minutes; seconded by Frank Park. Motion passed.

Item #3, Report to the Board by Chief Scott Spencer, Chair, Utah Fire Service Certification Council.

- The Council last met on July 21.
- Activity report: In May we had 1,224 tests for 2021 compared to 518 tests for 2020. This is the 2nd highest testing month. April tested 999 in 2021 compared to 382 in 2020. Testing numbers are back up in 2021.
- IFSAC site visit was held in June over Microsoft Teams. The team leader visited the Academy in person. Overall, the site visit went very well. All levels were re-accredited, and Officer 2, 3, and 4 will be recommended for approval at the next IFSAC board meeting. Those will then be added to our list for accredited levels.
- Jolene Chamberlain has been working on the recertification look-up system. It went live August 1, 2021.
- We have also been working with Pro Board for approved levels. They have changed some of their process methodologies which required us to change some of our verbiage to meet their requirements.

- We've had to put a hold on the surface water rescue. The exam we have is based on a book that is no longer in print. We are working to get that updated so the exam matches the new text book.

Item #4, Discussion on antifreeze in fire sprinkler systems. September 2022 is the deadline, set by NFPA 25, to allow non-listed antifreeze in fire sprinkler systems. Deputy State Fire Marshal Kelly Snow presented information to the Board, including a timeline of events on this topic (a copy is filed with the meeting minutes).

- Motion made by Craig Humphries that the Fire Prevention Board directs our Code Committee to take the subject of anti-freeze and moving forward in the State of Utah and provide us a recommendation. Motion seconded by Mike Phillips. Motion passed.
- Note: Online comment from Bob Sullivan with NFPA –“If I can assist with the research process of the antifreeze issue, please let me know.”

Item #5, Report to the Board by Brad Wardle on the status of the Utah Fire and Rescue Academy.

- UFRA's Strategic Plan and Annual Report will be discussed at November's meeting, and we will review our budget at that time as well. A copy of the reports should be mailed in October.
- Winter Fire School is on! It is scheduled for January 21 – 22, 2022.
- Pleased to report that our accreditation for Officers 1-4 should be finalized in the next month or so.
- We have also been working on our Volunteer Fire Officer Program. We will be presenting some ideas to the Volunteer Fire Officers in January.
- Joan Aaron has been selected to replace Lori Howes.
- We are still learning to assimilate our budget into UVU budget. We continue to make our dollar go as far as we can so we can provide more training.

Item #6, Report to the Board by Coy Porter, Utah State Fire Marshal, on the 24 of July fireworks and future legislation. This item was tabled until November's meeting.

Item #7, Report to the Board by Brett Ostler, Forestry, Fire and State Lands on the status of the 2021 fire season.

- Jaimie Barnes has been named as Division Director State Forester. Brett Ostler will continue to be the representative on the Fire Prevention Board.
- Numbers as of September 5, 2021:
 - Ignitions – 1,018 this year compared to 2020 at 1,228. Good to see the numbers going down, but our 10-year average is 869 fires. Our new fire sense campaign is working and we hope this continues to work in our favor.
 - 93% of fires have been fewer than 10 acres. That is only 75 fires out of the 1,018 have exceeded 10 acres, so the initial attack crews have done a very good job.
 - Another number that is down in relation to the fire prevention campaign is the human-caused fires. There have been 524 human-caused fires for 2021 (51%), compared to 915 (75%) for 2020.
 - Total acres burned in the State is 61,905, with 20,000 acres on State and private land. Total acres burned due to human-caused fires is 22,756.
 - Total suppression costs for all agencies is approximately \$41 million. For State suppression costs, it is roughly \$19 million.
 - We have had 23 non-home structures lost, 16 livable structures lost, 8 injuries resulting in lost time from work.

- We have a number of bills that will be coming out in the legislature.
- Things are going well, especially considering the drought.

Item #8, Approval by the Board to conduct the November Fire Prevention Board meeting virtually.

- Motion made by Frank Park to conduct November's Board meeting virtually. Seconded by Chris Kimball. Motion passed.

Item #9, Old Business: There was none.

Item #10, New Business: There was none.

Item #11, Next Board Meeting is November 9, 2021, beginning at 8:30 am at the Utah State Fire Marshal's office, 410 West 9800 South, Suite 372, Sandy, Utah 84070. This meeting will be conducted virtually with an option to attend in person.

- Brett Ostler made motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Frank Park. The meeting adjourned.